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SURVEYS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS IN 1950

The Ministry of Communications reports that 400 kilometers of new roads were constructed, and 38,000 kilometers of old roads reconditioned in China during 1950.

A total of 27,435 kilometers of highways were repaired or newly constructed in East China during 1950, and 21,000 kilometers out of the 25,000 kilometers of highways and six highway bridges in the Northwest were restored to use.

At the end of 1950, several highways in Kwangsi and the Canton-Swatow highway in Kwangtung were also reported reopened.

NATIONAL HIGHWAY CONFERENCE ADJOURNS -- New York, Hua-ch'iao Jih-pao, 8 May 51

Peiping, 30 April (Hsin-hua) -- The Second National Highway Conference convened in Peiping by the Ministry of Communications which has just adjourned heard reports concerning highway transportation for 1950 and policies and aims for 1951.

In 1950, transport on motor roads amounted to over 110 million ton-kilometers. New roads totaling 400 kilometers were constructed, and 38,000 kilometers of motor roads were reconditioned. Some 1,100 offices of transportation agencies were established, 2,500 new motor trucks were added, and 2,600 motor trucks were converted to the use of fuel other than gasoline.

The policy for 1951 places greatest importance on meeting the national defense needs, and next in importance, the handling of transportation of commodities between rural and urban localities, and to this end, using highway transportation as a supplement to the inland waterway transport system.

- 1 -

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50X1-HUM

Much effort is to be directed toward developing a tighter and more inclusive organization of all highway transportation agencies and facilities, both public and private, so that all will be operating as one integrated association of transportation agencies and companies.

Work is to be continued toward the construction of new highways found necessary or desirable as the result of systematic and technical study of needs. Greater efficiency and economy are to be sought in highway maintenance, and in the imposition and collection of highway maintenance taxes. Greater security for personnel and goods during transportation is also an important aim for 1951.

EAST CHINA IMPROVES TRANSPORTATION -- Shanghai, Hsin-wen Jih-pao, 5 Feb 51

Shanghai -- At a meeting of the Highway District chiefs, convened by the Communications Department of the East China Military and Administrative Committee on 28-30 January 1951, it was reported that a total of 27,435 kilometers of highways had been repaired or newly constructed in East China during 1950, and of the total, 16,814 kilometers, or 2,525 kilometers more than in 1949, were opened to traffic.

Repair work on the 1,200-kilometer Fukien-Chekiang highway was also completed in 1950. A total of 223 additional vehicles began operating on this highway which resulted in the lowering of transportation rates. With regard to the schedule for 1951, the Communications Department Chief, Huang I-feng, has reported that no definite plans have thus far been drafted and that the work remaining from the 1950 plans will be continued during the spring of 1951.

NORTHWEST HIGHWAYS ACHIEVE RECORD -- Peiping, Jen-min Jih-pao, 7 Jan 51

Sian, 4 January (Hsin-hua) -- By the end of 1950, 21,000 kilometers of the 25,000 kilometers of motor roads in the Northwest region were restored to use. Except for a few points where unusual difficulties were encountered, repairs have been completed on three national highways. These are the Sian-Ho-erh-kuo-ssu /on the western border of Sinkiang/ highway, the Hua-chia-ling-Shuang-shih-p'u highway, and the Shensi-Szechwan /Pao-chi-Huang-pa-i/ highway. Repairs have been in progress on all important provincial highways, so that for the most part the roads are now in use. The Han-chung (Nan-cheng) -- Pao-ho highway, which was in a very bad condition, is now usable. Travel on the roads that have been repaired is now much safer than before and a much greater volume of cargo is being transported over them.

HIGHWAY BRIDGE REPAIRS IN NORTHWEST -- Sian, Ch'un-chung Jih-pao, 26 Feb 51

Sian -- Models of the six big highway bridges in the Northwest, all of which had been either repaired or replaced by permanent or semipermanent bridges, are on display in the Northwest Communications Exhibition now in progress in Sian to indicate the extent of the engineering projects accomplished by the People's government during 1950.

These six bridges are the Yellow River bridge at Lan-chou, which has been greatly reinforced; the bridge across the Wei Ho at Pao-chi; the bridge at Chi-t'ou-kuan near Pao-ch'eng in Shensi; the bridge across the Chuang-lang Ho at Wu-sheng-i near Yung-teng in Kansu; the bridge across the gorge at Lo-tu on the way from Lan-chou to Hsi-ning in Tsinghai; and the Ma-ling-kuan bridge near Feng-hsien in Shensi. The bridge at Lo-tu is 75 meters long and can carry loads up to 15 tons. [No indications were given as to which bridges were repaired and which were replaced.]

- 2 -

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50X1-HUM

KWANGSI IMPROVES HIGHWAYS -- Canton, Nan-fang Jih-pao, 21 Feb 51

Traffic conditions on the Kwangsi highways improved greatly toward the end of 1950 and during the beginning of 1951. The highways opened for traffic during December 1950 included those between Ho-ch'ih and T'ien-tung, Wankang [24 30 N 107 15 E] and T'ien-chou, and Kuei-hsien and Kuei-p'ing. Those scheduled for opening in January 1951 were the Li-p'u to Meng-chiang, Liu-chou to Li-p'u, and Liu-chou to Wu-hsuan highways.

CANTON-SWATOW HIGHWAY OPEN -- Canton, Nan-fang Jih-pao, 11 Feb 51

Canton -- The Canton-Swatow highway, under repair for nearly a year, will be opened to passenger and freight traffic on 11 February 1951. Passenger service will be provided by the Kwangtung State-Owned Transportation Company on the Canton to Hui-chou section, and by the Tung-chiang Transportation and the Ch'ao-Shan Transportation Companies on the Hui-chou to Swatow section.

- E N D -

- 3 -

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